

**Iowa Department of Natural Resources  
Environmental Protection Commission**

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ITEM

**6**

DECISION

TOPIC                    **Contracts - Eastern Iowa Regional Utility Service Systems, Regional Utility Service Systems, ADLM Counties Public Health Agency, Xenia Rural Water District**

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The Environmental Protection Commission is requested to approve the agreements between the Department and **Eastern Iowa Regional Utility Service Systems, Regional Utility Service Systems, ADLM Counties Public Health Agency, and Xenia Rural Water District**. These contracts are for a one year duration.

The funding for these contracts comes from a \$200,000 set-aside in the EPA SRF IUP approved earlier. The specific contract amounts are EIRUSS - \$50,000, RUSS - \$54,000, ADLM - \$55,000, Xenia - \$41,000. These contracts have been created to help build sustainable utility management organizations (UMO). These groups are to manage the wastewater infrastructure in small communities that are unincorporated and/or too small to effectively manage this infrastructure. These management entities will help establish wastewater infrastructure in unsewered communities and offer to manage the infrastructure in somewhat larger communities that could benefit from this service.

We have been successful in working with three types of management organizations: rural water associations such as Xenia, multi-county 28E cooperative management programs such as EIRUSS and RUSS, and a multi-county environmental health group ADLM. These grantees were chosen from among eight grant applications received. We hope that these grants will help to get these organizations closer to being fiscally self-sustaining. At the same time we are asking them to develop business plans that we can share and duplicate with other similar groups.

Depending upon the success with these grants and the development of the organizations, we may issue similar grants in future years.

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